

IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A digital content downloading ~~system~~ method method using a network in which digital content is downloaded, comprising the steps of:

making a consumer send both information designating a desired digital content selected by the consumer and a desired digital content transmission condition related to quality of communication selected by the consumer to a digital content retailer possessing the desired digital content through a network;

making the digital content retailer reserve the network managed by a network operator according to the desired digital content transmission condition sent from the consumer;

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making the digital content retailer download the desired digital content designated by the information to the consumer through the network reserved by the digital content retailer at the desired digital content transmission condition sent from the consumer;

making the digital content retailer collect a charge for the desired digital content, in which a transmission charge corresponding to the desired digital content transmission condition is included, from the consumer; and

making the digital content retailer pay the transmission charge to the network operator.

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): A digital content downloading ~~system~~ method using a network, according to claim 1, wherein the desired digital content transmission condition selected by the consumer is a transmission time condition such as an urgent transmission

condition, a date and time specifying transmission condition or a date specifying transmission condition.

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): A digital content downloading ~~system~~ method using a network, according to claim 1, wherein the network is composed of a plurality of networks managed by a plurality of network operators, and the desired digital content transmission condition selected by the consumer corresponds to a communication quality of each of the networks.

a' Claim 4 (Currently Amended): A digital content downloading ~~system~~ method using a network, according to claim 3, wherein the communication quality of each network is determined by one of a data transfer rate, a delay time, a delay variation, a burst size, a cell interval and a cell discard rate.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): A digital content downloading ~~system~~ method using a network, according to claim 3, wherein a bandwidth of the network is reserved with a time condition in the network reservation according to the desired digital content transmission condition.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): A digital content downloading ~~system~~ method using a network, according to claim 1, wherein the desired digital content transmission condition selected by the consumer is a bandwidth guarantee type transmission condition, in which a transmission time period is guaranteed, or a bandwidth no-guarantee type transmission

conditions, in which a transmission time period is not guaranteed, and the transmission charge is heightened as the transmission time period is shortened.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): A digital content downloading ~~system~~ method using a network, according to claim 1, wherein the step of making the digital content retailer download the desired digital content includes:

making the digital content retailer check through the network whether or not the consumer has a capability such as a memory capacity for receiving the desired digital content, before the desired digital content is downloaded to the consumer at the desired digital content transmission condition.

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Claim 8 (Currently Amended): A digital content downloading ~~system~~ method using a network, according to claim 1, wherein the step of making the digital content retailer download the desired digital content includes:

connecting the consumer to the network through a subscriber line which is composed of a telephone line, an optical fiber cable, a coaxial cable or a radio transmission line.

Claim 9 (Currently Amended): A digital content downloading ~~system~~ method using a network, according to claim 1, wherein the step of making the digital content retailer download the desired digital content includes:

making the digital content retailer send a transmission start notice to the consumer before the downloading of the desired digital content;

making the network operator manage a transmission time period in the transmission of the desired digital content until the digital content retailer sends a transmission

completion notice to the network operator;

making the network operator send a time-out notice to the digital content retailer in cases where the transmission time period exceeds a prescribed value; and

making the digital content retailer forcedly terminate the downloading of the desired digital content in cases where the digital content retailer receives the time-out notice from the network operator.

Claim 10 (Currently Amended): A digital content downloading ~~system~~ method using a network, according to claim 1, wherein the step of making the digital content retailer download the desired digital content includes:

making the digital content retailer cipher the desired digital content;

making the digital content retailer download ciphered data of the desired digital content; and

making the consumer decipher the ciphered data of the desired digital content to obtain the desired digital content.

Claim 11 (Currently Amended): A digital content downloading ~~system~~ method using a network, according to claim 1, wherein the step of making the consumer send both the information and the desired digital content transmission condition includes:

making the consumer send personal information and payment information of the consumer to the digital content retailer;

making the digital content retailer inquire of a credit company whether or not the personal information and the

payment information sent from the consumer is correct; making the credit company perform the authentication of the consumer according to the personal information and the payment information; and

making the credit company send an authentication notice to the digital content retailer in cases where the personal information and the payment information is correct.

Claim 12. (Currently Amended) A digital content downloading ~~system~~ method using a network, according to claim 1, wherein the step of making the digital content retailer collect a charge for the desired digital content includes:

Q1 making the digital content retailer send an accounting notice corresponding to the charge for the desired digital content to a credit company;

making the credit company send a bill, which corresponds to the charge for the desired digital content, to the consumer in response to the accounting notice:

making the consumer pay the charge for the desired digital content to the credit company in response to the bill: and

making the credit company pay the charge paid by the consumer to the digital content retailer.

Claim 13 (Currently Amended): A digital content downloading ~~system~~ method using a network, according to claim 1, wherein the step of making the digital content retailer download the desired digital content includes:

making the consumer send a reception impossible notice to the digital content retailer in cases where the consumer;

fails in receiving the desired digital content;

making the digital content retailer send a transmission termination notice to the network operator; and

making the digital content retailer send a transmission no-completion notice to the consumer.

Claim 14 (Currently Amended): A digital content downloading ~~system~~ method using a network, according to claim 1, wherein the desired digital content is a music file, a video file or a game software title.

Q' Claim 15 (Withdrawn): A digital content downloading system using a network in which digital content is downloaded, comprising the steps of:

making a digital content retailer receive both information designating a desired digital content and a desired digital content transmission condition from a consumer;

making the digital content retailer reserve a network managed by a network operator according to the desired digital content transmission condition sent from the consumer;

making the digital content retailer download the desired digital content designated by the information to the consumer through the network according to the network reservation informed by the network operator;

making the digital content retailer collect a charge for the desired digital content, in which a transmission charge corresponding to the desired digital content transmission condition is included, from the consumer after the downloading of the desired digital content to the consumer is completed; and

making the digital content retailer pay the transmission charge to the network operator.

Claim 16 (Withdrawn): A digital content downloading system using a network, according to claim 15, wherein the information designating the desired digital content and the desired digital content transmission condition are sent from the consumer to the digital content retailer through the network or a telephone line.

Claim 17 (Withdrawn): A digital content downloading system using a network, according to claim 15, wherein the desired digital content is a music file, a video file or a game software title.

a' Claim 18 (Withdrawn): A digital content downloading system using a network in which digital content is downloaded, comprising the steps of:

making a network operator managing a network accept a reservation of the network according to a digital content transmission condition sent from a digital content retailer;

making the network operator inform the digital content retailer of the network reservation;

making the network operator download a particular digital content transmitted from the digital content retailer to a consumer through the reserved network according to the network reservation; and

making the network operator receive a transmission charge corresponding to the digital content transmission condition from the digital content retailer.

Claim 19 (Withdrawn): A digital content downloading system using a network, according to claim 18, wherein the transmission charge is a charge corresponding to a

communication quality of a downloading service of the particular digital content, and the consumer directly pays a network access charge different from the transmission charge to the network operator.

Claim 20 (Withdrawn): A digital content downloading system using a network, according to claim 18, wherein the step of making the network operator download the particular digital content includes:

making the network operator manage a digital content transmission time period from a transmission start notice sent from the digital content retailer to a transmission completion notice sent from the digital content retailer; and

Q' making the network operator send a time-out notice to the digital content retailer, in cases where the digital content transmission time period exceeds a prescribed value, to make the digital content retailer forcibly terminate the downloading of the particular digital content.

Claim 21 (Withdrawn): A digital content downloading system using a network, according to claim 18, wherein the particular digital content is a music file, a video file or a game software title.

Claim 22 (Withdrawn): A digital content downloading system using a network in which digital content is downloaded, comprising the steps of:

making a digital content retailer receive information designating a desired digital content, a desired digital content transmission condition and personal information and payment information of a consumer from the consumer;

making the digital content retailer reserve a network managed by a network operator according to the desired digital content transmission condition sent from the consumer;

making the digital content retailer download the desired digital content designated by the information to the consumer through the network according to the network reservation informed by the network operator;

making the digital content retailer collect a charge for the desired digital content, in which a transmission charge corresponding to the desired digital content transmission condition is included, from a bank according to an authentication of the consumer which is performed by the bank according to the personal information and the payment information of the consumer; and

Q1 making the digital content retailer pay the transmission charge to the network operator.

Claim 23 (Withdrawn): A digital content downloading system using a network, according to claim 22, wherein the information designating the desired digital content, the desired digital content transmission condition and the personal information and

the payment information of the consumer are sent from the consumer to the digital content retailer through the network or a telephone line.

Claim 24 (Withdrawn): A digital content downloading system using a network, according to claim 22, further comprising the step of:

making the consumer deposit money in his or her account of the bank before the information designating the desired digital content, the desired digital content transmission

condition and the personal information and the payment information of the consumer are sent from the consumer to the digital content retailer,

wherein the step of making, the digital content retailer collect a charge includes:

making the bank pay out the charge for the desired digital content including the transmission charge corresponding to the desired digital content transmission condition from the account of the consumer.

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Claim 25 (Withdrawn): A digital content downloading system using a network, according to claim 22, wherein the step of making the digital content retailer collect a charge is performed before the step of making the digital content retailer download the desired digital content designated by the information to the consumer.

Claim 26 (Withdrawn): A digital content downloading system using a network, according to claim 25, wherein the step of making the digital content retailer download the desired digital content includes:

making the digital content retailer receive a reception impossible notice sent from the consumer in cases where the consumer fails in receiving the desired digital content;

making the digital content retailer send a transmission termination notice to the network operator in response to the reception impossible notice to make the network operator terminate the transmission of the desired digital content; and

making the digital content retailer repay the charge for the desired digital content including the transmission charge corresponding to the desired digital content transmission condition to the bank in response to the reception impossible notice.

Claim 27 (Withdrawn): A digital content downloading system using a network, according to claim 25, wherein the step of making the digital content retailer download the desired digital content includes:

making the digital content retailer receive a reception impossible notice sent from the consumer in cases where the consumer fails in receiving the desired digital content;

making the digital content retailer send a transmission termination notice to the network operator in response to the reception impossible notice to make the network operator terminate the transmission of the desired digital content;

making the digital content retailer receive second information designating a second desired digital content and a second desired digital content transmission condition from the consumer;

Q' making the digital content retailer reserve the network managed by the network operator according to the second desired digital content transmission condition sent from the consumer; and

making the digital content retailer download the second desired digital content designated by the second information to the consumer through the network according to the network reservation informed by the network operator.

Claim 28 (Withdrawn): A digital content downloading system using a network, according to claim 22, wherein the desired digital content in a music file, a video file or a game software title.